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ABSTRACT

Educational policy in Bahrain during the period 1974-76 stressed expansion to include all school age children, curriculum development to keep abreast of social change, increased efficiency of educational administration, construction of new school buildings, and eradication of illiteracy. The three levels of the educational system are primary (ages six-11), intermediate (ages 12-13), and secondary (ages 14-16). Secondary education includes general (arts and science), vocational, and commercial courses. In a discussion of developments since 1974, the following innovations are mentioned. Two-year training courses to certify primary school teachers were developed, and training abroad was offered to teacher trainers. Special training courses for teachers familiarized them with uses of educational films and slides. Emphasis was placed on inservice training in the field of educational administration. To help combat illiteracy, 18 new programs were instituted for adults and new reading books were printed. Four public libraries opened in different parts of the country, and mobile units visited outlying regions. (AV)

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STATE OF BAHRAIN
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
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DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN BAHRAIN
(1975 - 1976)
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SP 010 363

August 1977.

POLICY OF EDUCATION

The policy of education of the Ministry for the two scholastic years 1974/1975 - 1975/1976 cared for the followings:-

1 - Continuation of Educational expansion in order to be available to all school age children.

2 - Improvement of the efficiency of all its employees in all levels.

3 - Developing the curricula in order to cope with the new requirements of the individual and the society.

4 - Improvement of the teaching efficiency for the teaching staff, raising the efficiency of the administrative system and the development of the School Administration to make it better qualified in doing its responsibilities.

5 - Continuation of building new modern schools to cope with the expected growth and to replace the rented school buildings.

6 - Continuation of strengthening the technical and vocational education to cope with the increasing requirement of the country in the industrial and commercial fields.

7 - Strengthening of the existing efforts in the fields of literacy and Adult Education in order to give the adults a better chance for education, and to make it related to their work in order to practice the principle of functional education and its relation to the social and economic development.

THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

In 1975 the Ministry of Education approved the extension of the study the intermediate level from two to three years and making attendance compulsory. These changes will be put into action starting the academic year of 1977 / 1978.

The aim of the new system is to improve the quality of students before going to secondary education and to give them a better chance, through guidance and wide range of academic and practical activities to choose the type of work or study best suited to their abilities, aptitudes and interests.

Thus the education system in Bahrain will be as follow:

1 - Primary Education lasts for six years and covers the ages of 6 - 11 years. It leads to the primary school certificate.

2 - Internediate Education currently lasts for two years but will be extended in the academic year 1977/78 to three years. It covers the ages of 12 - 13 years. It terminates in the Intermediate school certificate.

3 - Secondary Education lasts for three years and covers the age of 14 - 16 years. It terminates in the secondary school certificate.

N.B. There are three kinds of Secondary Education : General, Industrial and Commercial. After the second year General Education branches into either Arts or Science.

EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION

The Ministry of Education has instituted a number of Education Acts to codify Education in Bahrain.

1 - The Ordinance of Education. This is the first codification of education in Bahrain. It defines the aims and objectives of education in Bahrain regarding its development.

2 - The Ordinance of Compulsory Education. This act makes primary and intermediate schooling compulsory in Bahrain.

3 - Special Education. This defines the Ministry's responsibility for controlling and supervising Special Education.

4.- The Ordinance of literacy and Adult Education. This defines the Ministry's responsibility for the eradication of illiteracy and the development of adult education.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

In 1975 the ministry of education put a new organization for the administration of the Ministry.

The most important characteristics of this organization are:

1 - Abolition of all the segregation between male and female educational Administration.

2 - Establishment of a directorate for cultural and bursary student's affairs.

3 - Establishment of a new directorate for curricula, books and educational media due to its importance.

Accordinly the administrative structure of the Ministry consists of 9 directorates and 28 units as follows:

1 - The Directorate of Educational planning

A - The Unit of Planning and follow-up.
B - " " " Statistics.
C - " " " Documentation & Research.
D - " " " Training.
E - " " " School building section.

2 - Directorate of Curricula, Books and Educationmal Media

A - The Unit of Curricula and Books.
B - " " " Educational Media.

3 - Directorate of Bursary Students and Cultural Affairs

A - Cultural Attache offices.
B - The Unit of Cultural affairs.
C - " " " Bursary Student.
D - Secondment Section.

4 - Directorate of General Education

A - The Unit of Primary Education.
B - " " " Intermediate and Secondary Education.
C - " " " Litracy and Adult Education.
D - " " " Educational Services.
E - Section of Private Education Establishment.

5 - Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education

A - The Unit of Industrial Education.
B - " " " Commercial " .
C - " " " Vocational " .

6 - Directorate of Evaluation and Examinations

A - The Unit of General examination.
B - " " " Evaluation and Measurement.

7 - Directorate of Financial and Administrative affairs

A - The Unit of Personnel.
B - " " " Financial affairs.
C - " " " Supplies.
D - " " " Administrative Guidance.
E - " " " Budget.

8 - Directorate of Sports and Scout Education

A - The Unit of Sport Education.
B - " " " Scout Education.

9 - Directorate of Antiquities and Museums

A - The Unit of Excavations.
B - Secretariat of Museums and Shows.
C - Investigative Section.
D - The Unit of Secretariat and Relations.

In addition to these directorates there are two other units;

10 - The Superintendency of Public Libraries.

11 - The Unit of Public Relations

A - International Section.
B - Photography Section.
C - Cinema and Technical Affairs.
D - Reception and School Visits.
E - Students Essay Writing.
F - Compitition in T.V. and Radio Station.

IN - SERVICE TRAINING

The Ministry of Education has organised two - year training courses for unqualified primary school teachers aimed at training them as fully certificated teachers. The training is given over 6 months in each year. This project was started by the Ministry of Education in 1973 and continued with the co-operation of UNICEF in 1974. During the first year of its operation, 1973-74, there was 182 students, In 1974-75 the number of students reached 210. For the year 1975-76 the number was 165.

The Ministry of Education has also shown great interest in preparing development programmes for Teacher Trainers by sending them abroad on Training courses. It has further organised a plan in co-operation with UNESCO to convert the Teachers Training College to a Faculty of Science, Arts and Education. It is anticipated that this faculty will be opened in 1978-79 and the duration of the of the courses of study will be 4 years.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Education has shown a special interest in the development of curricula. It has established a special Directorate for Curricula, Book, and Teaching Media

which is currently focusing on the new, three-year, Intermediate Stage. To achieve this the Directorate created a comprehensive development of the curricula to fit the new plan. The Directorate has held and participated in training courses both at home and abroad in curriculum development of Arabic Language, Modern Mathematics, Science and Teaching Aids. Educational inspection and teaching staff have shared in curriculum development at the various stages.

TEACHING AIDS

Training courses have been held for both men and women teachers on the use of teaching aids. These courses have included the use of educational films sets of slids and other teaching techniquies. Teaching aids booklets have been written and distributed to all schools.

TECHNICAI EDUCATION

COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Secondary Technical school followed the new plan of Training and it aims to give the pupil a broad base in the different specializations to enable him to choose the one that fits his interest. The Ministry gives a greate attention to Bahrainizing the jobs of Technical Education for Secondary Stage. The Directorate of Technical and Vocational education became interested in raising the standard of their teaching staff, so some teachers of Technical and Vocational Education were sent abroad to continue their higher studies in U.K. and Japan.

A one year course was arranged and held in the Gulf College for eight teachers teaching the commercial subjects at girls departments.

A commercial (Arabic - English) Dictionary was prepared for all the technical terms for accounting subjects and book keeping in English Language.

THE DIRECTORATE OF EVALUATION & EXAMINATION

The Directorate of Evaluation and Examination worked in developing the systems of Examinations through the Ministry's request for secondment of a specialist in evaluation and examinations from the Arab league Educational, Cultural and Scientific organization (ALECSO).

The specialist, with the co-operation of the

Ministry administration advised to issue new systems and laws for evaluation and exaninations aining at improving the existing one. The Ministry cared for supporting and Strenghening its Directorate and supplying it with the qualified Staff.

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

The Directorate of Planning activities during this period, aimed at preparing a number of plans projecting the possibilities of the growth of education in the future and its needs of manpower and economical aspects.

The Directorate also accomplished an analytic study for the development of the Ministry of Education approved Budget compared to the Budget of the State and its national income from 1970 - 1976.

In relation to the employment and administrative organization, the Directorate participated in excuting the requirements of the new organization by the use of the job description for different jobs of the Ministry. The Directorate cared also for the educational researches with the frame of the UNESCO project for educational planning whose first responsibilities is to train educational planning employees in research work and educational planning.

The Directorate participated in many seminars and training courses in the fields of Documentation, statistics and educational research.

In the field of school Buildings, the Directorate prepared an educational plan for the country aining at putting a detailed plan for the growth of Education from 1976 - 1991 and the reflections of this on the needs of the Ministry for school buildings in the different stages of education. A time schedule for school buildings and its new locations has already been made. The Ministry also cared for increasing the number of schools and classes for scholastic year 1975-1976.

TRAINING OF ADMINISTRATIVE & TECHNICAL CADRE

The Ministry is giving a special concern to the in-service training especially those working in the field of Educational Administration. Part of this concern is the establishment of unit for training attached to the Directorate of Planning whose director supervises the organization for the training courses of the ministry employees. The ain behind that is to provide the good and the suitable training to raise the training and admistrative efficiency in the country. Some of the employees from different sections were sent abroad for training courses to be more efficient in their work.

LITERACY AND ADULT EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education has shown great interest in the programmes for literacy and Adult Education. The project began in the academic year 1973/1974 with 30 classes for both sexes; 576 of the students were males and 578 were females.

In the following year the number of classes was 80 with 2858 students.

In the academic year 1975/1976 the number of classes had increased to 136 and the number of students reached 4168. 1339 were males and 2829 were females.

In 1976 the following occurred:

1 - Six new centres were opened for women and four for men.

2 - Nine new sections were opened for English Language catering for 400 students.

3 - Three new sections were opened for Domestic Science catering for 80 students.

4 - New books suitable for adult purposes were printed.

SPORT AND SCOUT EDUCATION

The Directorate of Sport and Scout arranges Training Courses for the female Teachers of Sport and Scout. A Special Centre for Gymnasium was erected in Isa Town Secondary School for Boys. Also boys and girls schools has been supplied with the equipments required for some games which was included as part of the primary school stage.

Bahrain, Also participated in the Arab Scout conference which was held in Tunsia in August 1976.

ANTIQUITIES AND MUSEUMS

A lot of Excavations took place in different parts of the country. Many graves related to different ages were discovered. Maintenance was done to the antiquities under the superivision of specialists.

In addition there are very rare books and documents available in the Directorate of Museums and Antiquities.

The Directorate of Antiquities and Museums participated in some conferences and seminars. It also issued a guide to the Museum and another for Bahrain Folklore.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The central library in Bahrain is The Manama Public Library. By the end of 1975, the Ministry had built four new public libraries situated in different parts of the country. These new libraries are all supplied with a variety of material, both fiction and non-fiction and include sections on culture and arts.

The Department of Administration of the public libraries is doing its best to encourage reading and intends to open even more local libraries. In addition to the local libraries, mobile library units visit the outlying areas. These mobile libraries have been additionally supplied with special books for children.

PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

1 - Preparing Educational T.V. programms, especially to serve the pupils and teachers and the public in general.

2 - Different cultural lectures for the public.

3 - Pupils' visit to different establishments.

4 - Publishing informative and news pamphlets.

5 - Organizating Competitions for the pupils on the radio and T.V.

6 - Organizing writing compititions for teachers.

7 - Arranging visits to different local industrial establishments in the country.

8 - Arranging visits abroad.

9 - Projecting variaty of educational films.

10- Participation in organizing conferences and educational Seminars.

THE QUANTITIVE GROWTH

Primary Education

In 1974-75 the enrollment reached 40425 pupils; 17660 of them were females. In 1975-76 the number of pupils increased to 41751; 18219 of them were females. This was an increase of 3.4% for males and 3.2% for females. That is 3.3% for the total number of pupils.

Intermediate Stage

The enrollment reached 8211 in 1974-75; 3707 of them were females. In 1975-76 the number of students increased to 8533; 3901 of them were females. That was an

increase of 3.1% for males and 5.0% for females.

Secondary General Education

The enrollment in General Education in both branches of "Science and Literary" reached 7035 students in 1974-1975; 3818 of them were females.

In 1975-1976 the number of students reached 7154; 3896 of them were females. This was an increase of 1.3% for males and 2.0% for females.

Technical Education

The enrollment of regular students in Technical Schools reached 684 pupils in the year 1974-1975 but 681 in the year 1975-1976; a decrease of 0.4%.

Commercial Education

The enrollment in Commercial Education reached 915 students in 1974-1975; 399 of them were females. In the year 1975-1976 the number of pupils increased to 984; 458 of them were females; an increase of 1.9% for males and 14.8% for females.

Number of students & classrooms in the different stages
for 1974/75 - 1975/76

Level	1974/75						1975/76					
	Number of students			Number of classrooms			Number of students			Number of classrooms		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Primary	22765	17660	40425	611	472	1083	23532	18219	41751	610	489	1099
Intermediate	4494	3717	8211	126	105	231	4632	3901	8533	131	105	236
G. Education	3217	3818	7035	199	112	211	3258	3896	7154	101	114	215
Commercial Education	516	399	915	20	15	35	526	458	984	21	17	38
Technical	684	-	684	22	-	22	681	-	681	23	-	23
Relegious Education	133	-	133	3	-	3	18	-	18	3	-	3
T. T. College	77	260	337	5	8	13	42	239	281	4	8	12

Number of schools and teachers by level and Sex
1974/75 - 1975/76

Type of school	1974/75						1975/76					
	Number of schools			Number of teachers			Number of schools			Number of teachers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Primary	44	36	80	662	592	1254	42	35	77	664	648	1312
Primary-Intermediate	12	8	20	399	229	628	12	7	19	434	229	663
Intermediate	--	2	2	--	34	34	--	3	3	--	69	69
Intermediate-Secondary	3	c3	6	135	144	279	3	3	6	145	152	297
Secondary (Gen. & Com.)	3	3	6	188	179	367	3	4	7	195	194	389
Technical	2	-	2	70	-	70	2	-	2	*79	-	79
Relegious Education	1	-	1	18	-	18	1	-	1	18	-	18
T. T. College	1	1	2	**28	11	39	1	1	2	* 31	12	43

* This number includes teachers for both T.T. Colleges.

** For Theoritical and practicle subjects.